Library

DULVERTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

A N N U A L R E P O R T.

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

YEAR 1960.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIB.

St. Peter Street,

TIVERTON.

Devon.

To: The Chairman & Members of the
Dulverton Rural District Council.

Mr Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report on the health of the Dulverton Rural District during the year 1960.

The headings are those formulated by the Ministry of Health.

G. NICHOLSON.

Medical Officer of Health.

June, 1961.

DULVERTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

List of Rural District Councillors.

as at 31st December 1960.

Chairman: The Hon. Mrs M.G. Herbert, Pixton Dulverton.

Vice Chairman: Mr. I.J. Kemp, Dulverton.

Mr. B.A. Hobhouse.
Mrs. T. Robinson.
Mr. A.B. Smallridge.
Mr. W.G. Bryant.
Mr. G.C. Sweetland.
Mrs.M.B. Bovill.
Mr. C. Denscombe.
Mr. H. Brentnall.
Miss. M. Aston.
Maj. M.P. Morris.

Brig. A.E. Snow.
Mr. H.S. Holman.
Mr. J. Hayes.
Mr. F.T. Barrow.
Mr. J. Richards.
Mr. D.C. Clapp.
Capt. E.A. Gibbs R.N. (Ret'd)
Miss. D.K. Abbot.
Mr. A. Herbert.

The Public Health Committee consists of the Council as a whole.

Clerk to the Council: R.W. Halse Esq., Solicitor.

Public Health Officers for the District:

Part Time Medical Officer of Health.
Dr. G. Nicholson, M.D.,D.P.H.,F.R.C.S.,

Public Health Inspector & Surveyor:
Mr. R.J. Organ, A.R.S.H.,M.A.P.H.I.,A.I.P.H.E.,

Clerk:
Miss E. Harris. (Resigned March 1961)

.....

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in acres	78,159.
Population 1959 (estimated).....	4,500.
Number of inhabited houses as per rate books	1,484.
Sum produced by 1d rate	£128.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS.

Good. The vast majority of the inhabitants are engaged in agricultural pursuits and appear to be exceptionally healthy in consequence.

EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1960.

	Total	Male	Female
Live Births Legitimate	62	25	37
Live Births Illegitimate	2	1	1
Deaths from all causes	36	22	14
Still Births	2	1	1
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population.	13.8		
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population.	8.0		
Corrected Death Rate	7.7		
Corrected Birth Rate	15.7		

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER AGE OF ONE YEAR.

NIL.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

See Public Health Inspector's Report.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

No particular disease was unduly prevalent during the year.

VACCINATIONS.

Vaccinations carried out by the Medical Officer of Health during 1959 in the Dulverton Rural District ..... NIL.
Medical practitioners now carry out vaccinations.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS).

	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
Small Pox	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-
Diptheria	-	-	-
Measles...	1	-	-
Whooping Cough	1	-	-
Puerperal pyrexia ...	-	-	-
Pneumonia	9	-	-
Other Diseases notifiable locally			
Chicken Pox	-	-	-
Erysipelas	2	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-
Anthrax	-	-	-

Deaths from Cancer: Stomach 2 other regions 2 (see chart in Appendix 1)
Leukaemia 1

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

No action taken.

HOUSING.

The Local Authority erected eight Old Peoples Bungalows at Dulverton and work was commenced on four dwellings at Exford.
See Public Health Inspector's Report.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

1. Nursing in the Home.
   (a) Nursing is provided by the Health Dept of the Somerset County Council and where required there is liason with the Local Authority.
   (b) Home Helps.
   All home help services are controlled by the Somerset County Council. It operates in the district giving attention to chronic sick and maternity services. The Staff consists of four visiting women and occasionally a resident home help is sent in special cases.
   (c) Infectious Diseases.
   Where required cases of acute infectious disease are removed to isolation hospitals outside the area.
2. Midwives.
   None employed or subsidised by the Local Authority. Number practising in the area -4.

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

https://archive.org/details/b29171982

3. Arrangements for the carrying out of Pathological and Bacteriological Investigations, Analysis of Foodstuffs etc., are made at the Somerset County Laboratory at Taunton and with the Public Health Laboratory Service at Musgrove Hospital Taunton.

4. Hospitals.
There are no hospitals of any description within the area. Hospital accommodation for Infectious Diseases - No change.

5. Maternity and Nursing Homes.
There are no Maternity or Nursing Homes within the area. Where necessary Maternity cases are removed to Minehead Tiverton or Taunton Hospitals. Cases of Maternal Mortality and Puerperal Pyrexia are investigated by the County Authority. An Ante-Natal Clinic is held at Exmoor House Dulverton each month.

6. Institutional Provisions for the care of mental Defectives.
None in the area.

7. Diptheria Immunisations and Vaccinations.
Diptheria immunisations, poliomyelitis and smallpox vaccinations are carried out by general practitioners and at the monthly Clinic held at Exmoor House.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. Water Supply.
Nine of the largest villages have a main supply. Samples were taken by the Public Health Inspector in various parishes during the year and the results of these are set out in his report.

2. Drainage.
Dulverton, Brushford and Exford have modern sewage works. Winsford, Brompton Regis and Withypool have no main drainage. The Council should give consideration to this problem.

3. Rivers and Streams Pollution.
The pollution of rivers and streams is dealt with mainly by the Devon River Board.

4. Closet Accommodation.
Improvements in the scattered cottages are constantly being made and every encouragement is given to do this. Many new septic tanks have been installed during the year.

5. Schools.
The majority of Schools now have flush lavatories. Insanitary closet accommodation at the Withiel Florey School was replaced during the year by flush lavatories. All schools within the area are visited from time to time by the School Doctors and any public health matters requiring attention are dealt with. Inspections of school kitchens are carried out by the Public Health Inspector in addition to those inspections made by the County officials.

6. Public Cleansing.
See Public Health Inspector's Report.

7. Sanitary Inspection of the area.
See Public Health Inspector's Report.

8. Eradication of Bedbugs.
No action has been required up to the present.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age.	New Cases during 1960.				Mortality.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
Period	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1 - 10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 65	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
Over 65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		1	-	-	1		-	-

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952 - No action
Public Health Act,1925, (Section 62). No action taken.

My thanks are due to Mr Organ, for his assistance in compiling this Report and also for his co-operation throughout the year.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient Servant,

GEORGE NICHOLSON.

Medical Officer of Health.

APPENDIX. 1.

CANCER DEATHS.

The following table represents the mortality from cancer which has taken place in the Dulverton Rural District over the past eight years.

	Population	Gastric cancer	Cancer of Bowel	Ovary	Oesophagus	Bladder	Pancreas	Breast	Larynx	Uterus	Prostate	Rectum	Vulvr.	Bronchus	Orbit	TOTAL
Dulverton	1462	3	4	1	4		3	2	1			3	1		1	23
Withypool	200	1						1						1		3
Luish Champflower	212	1			1	1										3
Exford	436	5			1		3	2								11
Exton	304	1														1
Hawkridge	60	1														1
Brushford)	479	1					1	2								4
Exebridge)		1		1			1	3		1						7
Brompton Regis	540	1	1		1		1	3								7
Skilgate	133	1														1
Winsford	370		1		1					3	2	2				9
Simonsbath	237					1		2								3
Upton	150		1													1
TOTAL	4583	16	7	2	8	2	9	15	1	4	2	5	1	1	1	74

Rate per 1,000

	Gastric Cancer	Cancer of Bowel	Breast	Lung
Dulverton R.D.	0.42	0.16	0.37	0.02
England & Wales.	0.30	0.02	0.38	0.45

The most striking feature in the above table is the figure of one for Bronchial or Lung cancer. In Britain as a whole the figure for lung cancer usually exceeds that of gastric cancer so we should have expected about 18 deaths in this bracket instead of one.

The figure for gastric cancer is high. The usual figure for the country as a whole is 0.3 per thousand. Gastric cancer tends to be more common on peaty soil which is badly drained.

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1960.

Preface.

Madam Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report upon the work of the Public Health Department for the year 1960. my third year of office.

The statistics and comments in the pages which follow indicate the wide field of duties carried out by the department all of which however are concerned in the maintenance and improvement of Public Health conditions of the area.

During the year work was commenced on the preparation of several improvement schemes for existing village water schemes and also for providing modern amenities to some pre-war Council Houses. Although the task of preparing water schemes has been entrusted to Consulting Engineers much of the original details had to be collected in my office and forwarded to the engineers. This in some cases took a considerable time and does I feel account for the slight reduction in the total number of other visits made.

The investigation of applications for improvement grants again occupied a considerable amount of my time, this branch of my work is however very interesting in so far as some definite results are seen and cottages and houses which unless improved with the aid of such grants would undoubtably be allowed to further deteriorate and would probably call for early action under the Housing or Public Health Acts.

As a result of pressure of other work it was again not possible to devote as much time as I would have desired to the subject of Food Hygiene although figures given in that section of the report will make it clear this branch of the work has by no means been ignored. The fact that no outbreak of food poisoning was notified during the year is not a matter for complacency. I feel greater care should be taken by some food handlers especially during busy periods. I feel also that consumers themselves would help the present campaign by refusing to accept, without comment, the small but important "indescretions" often committed by those handling food and food utensils.

In conclusion may I express my thanks to the Chairman of the Council the Chairman of Public Health & Housing Committees and all members of the Council for their help and consideration. I am indebted also to the Clerk and his staff, the Medical Officer of Health, all other officers and my own staff for their co-operation and assistance throughout the year.

I am, Ladies & Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. J. ORGAN.

Public Health Inspector & Surveyor.

June 1961.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1960.

Inspections carried out by Officers of the Department during the year totalled 1,290 and the details below indicate the multifarious nature of these duties:-

Council Houses (Repairs)	101
Council Houses (Management)	47
Housing Inspections	33
Housing Re- Inspections	64
Nuisances and Complaints	22
Verminous Premises	16
Infectious Diseases	9
Visits to Food Premises	18
Visits in connection with Meat Inspections	146
Factories	34
Moveable Dwellings	5
Visits in connection with alterations and improvements to properties	333
Petroleum Regulations	46
Visits in connection with Rodent Control (excluding operators visits)	3
Refuse Collection & Disposal	24
Routine visits to Sewage Works	85
Visits in connection with water supplies (Main & Private supplies)	245
Miscellaneous Visits	39
Visits in connection with proposed new drainage	20
	1,290

HOUSING.

(a) Council Houses.

The year 1960 saw the completion of the first units of accommodation within the Dulverton Rural District built specifically for old people. The eight units, in two blocks of four were designed by Unity Structures Ltd and were erected on a pleasant slightly elevated site at Jury Road Dulverton. Weather conditions during the early stages of the work were exceedingly poor but steady progress was made and the bungalows completed and formally opened at a ceremony held at the site in August. No difficulty was encountered in finding suitable tenants for these dwellings and it appears that the occupants have settled in their new homes extremely well. All eight bungalows are connected to a Warden's house by means of a bell system.

A scheme for the erection of two bungalows and two houses at Coombe Lane Exford was prepared for the Council during the year by a firm of Architects. The Scheme received Ministry approval in August and work was commenced during September. Here again weather conditions were very poor during the early stages of the work, by the end of the year however both houses and bungalows were at eaves level.

During the year the Council gave further consideration to the improvements of Pre-war Council Houses by the provision of Standard amenities e.g. Hot water systems basins etc. A pilot scheme for four houses at Winsford was prepared and the work completed before the end of the year. Although a small additional rent is charged all tenants appear very pleased with the additional amenities provided. Similar schemes for other pre-war houses are to be prepared in the near future.

With the completion of the Old People's Bungalows the Council now own a total of 219 dwellings. The work of external painting was again let out to Contract as also was a scheme for repairing further footpaths on the old estate at Brushford. All other Council house repairs are carried out by a small direct labour force.

It was possible during the year to carry out more routine inspections of Council Houses than had been carried out in previous years, in some cases general conditions were found to be unsatisfactory and tenants were warned, further inspections did reveal some improvement.

(b) Action under the Housing Acts.

Three Demolition Orders were made during the year in respect of cottages at Upton and Exton. All cottages had been vacated by the end of the year and work was about to start on the Demolition of the Upton Cottage. A scheme was subsequently submitted for the reconditioning of the cottages at Exton and the Council extended the time within which the premises were due to be demolished in order that reconditioning may be carried out.

Undertakings given under the Housing Acts that premises would not be used for human habitation until such time as they were made fit to the satisfaction of the Council were cancelled in respect of four cottages at Dulverton following reconstruction and the conversion of four original dwellings into two.

It has been said in the past the amount of work carried out by Local Authorities under the Housing Acts has been measured by the number of Demolition Orders made and enforced but I feel this yardstick of measurement no longer applies particularly in an area such as this where there appears to be a demand for the older type of property. In many cases premises considered unfit for human habitation and not capable of being rendered fit at a reasonable cost are reconditioned by owners and satisfactory units of accommodation provided.

One case of overcrowding was discovered during the year and informal action taken.

One private house and eight Local Authority dwellings were erected during the year. In addition at the end of the year 3 Private houses and four Local Authority houses were in course of construction. The total number of houses erected in the district from the 1st April 1945 to the 31st December 1960 is as follows:-

Local Authority	143.
Private Enterprise	47.

No Council houses were sold during the year. At the 31st December the total number of applicants on the Council's housing list was 40 being a decrease of four over the previous year.

Improvement Grants.
A. Discretionary.
Number of applications and houses dealt with by Local Authority during year.

(1) Received		(2) Approved.	
Applications.	No. of Dwellings.	Applications.	No. of Dwellings.
7	7	7	7

NOTE - Number of applications approved in respect of owner/occupier dwellings during year .....5...

Average cost per dwelling approved during year	£1,127. 16. 1.
Amount of grant payable by Local Authority	£2,069. 0. 0.

B. Standard.
1. Number of Applications (a) Received ..... Five .....
(b) Approved ..... Five .....

2. Number of houses where Standard Amenities have been provided .... 4 ....

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

The Caravan Sites, and Control of Developement Act 1960 came into force in August 1960.

One site was licensed during the earlier part of the year under the provisions of the former Public Health Acts, this licence was however surrendered during the year and at the end of the year no site licences were in force.

During the summer months a few itinerant caravans were stationed at various points for one or two nights but no complaints were received.

WATER SUPPLIES.

a) Public Supplies.

Sampling of all main supplies at regular intervals for Bacteriological examination was continued throughout the year, samples being collected from spring heads, reservoirs and points along the supply main.

Such samples are sent by passenger train to the Public Health Laboratory at Taunton and the results obtained are indicated below.

Supply	No. of samples submitted for Bacteriological examination.	Number found satisfactory	Number unsatisfactory.
Dulverton & Brushford.	14	12	2
Exford.	3	2	1
Winsford.	3	2	1
Withypool.	4	4	-
Brompton Regis.	8	5	3
Skilgate.	7	6	1
Huish Champflower.	4	4	-
Dulverton (Jury Road Supply)	1	1	-
Total	44	36	8

The figure in the last column indicates the number of samples which failed to reach the very high standard laid down for a Public water supply but in most cases the "count" was very small and the water could still be regarded as being fit for domestic and drinking purposes.

In addition to the samples taken for Bacteriological examination one sample from each of the Council's main supplies was submitted to the County Analyst for chemical examination, the result in each case being satisfactory.

All the larger villages now have piped water supplies. There is an automatic hardening plant at Hollam Dulverton which serves the Dulverton, Brushford and Exebridge supplies in addition to the bulk supply for that part of Exebridge which is within the area of the North Devon Water Board. At this plant the p.H. value is raised from 6.4 to 8.0. Chlorination is also dealt with by the same plant.

Shortages of water were encountered during the summer months particularly with the Winsford and Brompton Regis supplies, some restrictions were imposed but by reason of a more even spread of rainfall during the summer months the difficulties were not as serious as thoseexperienced during the previous year. The total rainfall recorded at Exmoor House Dulverton during 1960 was 56.81 inches as compared with 52.91 inches in 1959. Rainfall recorded during October, November and December amounted to 27.5 inches and as a result serious flooding occured in many parts of the district during October and December.

Serious difficulties were again experienced during the year regarding supplies to some high level properties at Brushford. The Council engaged a firm of Consulting Engineers to prepare preliminary reports on the Dulverton, Brushford, Exford, Winsford and Brompton Regis supplies and at the end of the year work was well in hand on preparing a scheme for the improvements to the Dulverton and Brushford Supplies. The Council also accepted in principle the Consulting Engineers proposals for augmenting and improving the Exford Winsford and Brompton Regis supplies.

The Marsh Bridge pumping unit was again used during the summer months to augment the Dulverton supply. For a short period also the emergency pump on the banks of the river Barle at Brushford had to be used to augment supplies at that end, this pump does however draw water from a somewhat undesirable source and by reason of the absence of proper treatment plant its use should in my opinion be discontinued altogether at the earliest possible date.

(b) Private Supplies.

Throughout the year several samples were taken from private supplies in the district. Good co-operation exists between the local authority and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food for the testing of new supplies under grant aided schemes and it is to be hoped that this co-operation will continue. In such cases where samples are taken from a proposed new source a small charge is made to cover part cost of travelling etc.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

Three of the larger parishes have sewage disposal systems and works namely Dulverton Brushford and Exford the maintenance of which is undertaken by direct labour. The Council also accept responsibility for the maintenance of a Cesspool serving the hamlet of Oldways End and for two cesspools at Brompton Regis.

All works received regular attention and are kept in a good state of repair. The chain pump ordered for the Exford works during the previous year was delivered and fixed, all works now have one of these pumps which is used for the pumping out of detrites tanks and settlement tanks. Humus tanks are pumped out with a mobile sewage pump. Prior to 1960 the general standard of maintenance at the Exford works could not always be regarded as being satisfactory, during the year however the Council engaged a part time labourer resident in Exford and daily maintenance of these works is now carried out.

It is hoped that as soon as the economic position will allow, the Council will give serious consideration to the provision of sewage schemes with necessary treatment works in at least three of the larger parishes which are at present without these facilities. I feel also that in the not too far distant future it may also be necessary to turn attention to the Dulverton sewage system the present works would not allow for any further developement in Dulverton and these will undoubtably have to be extended at some future date. The Dulverton sewers do I feel take a considerable amount of sub'soil infiltration and this will also require some attention at a later date.

REFUSE COLLECTIONS.

Regular collections of house refuse from villages within the district were made during the year. Collections varied from once weekly in the larger parishes of Dulverton Brushford and Exford to once every six weeks in some of the more scattered areas. Prior to 1960 collections from Huish Champflower and Hawkridge were made once every six weeks and two months respectively but in 1960 collections from these areas were increased to every four and six weeks respectively.

Further requests for the service to be extended were received from time to time and these were considered by the Council when preparing the 1961 programme.

The Diesel refuse lorry of 10 c.y. capacity purchased in 1957 continued to give good service. The annual mileage is approximately 7,000 miles and there is no doubt that the Diesel engine particularly in an area such as this has a great advantage over the petrol driven vehicle. The vehicle averaged 13.6 miles to the gallon and in view of the work carried out this can be regarded as quite satisfactory.

All refuse after collection is brought to a central incinerator at the

Dulverton Sewage Works. Tins are sorted and electrically baled and other metals are sold. Only ashes and non-combustible materials such as glass etc are taken to the tip at Cutways End.

The market for baled destructor scrap and scrap iron generally was found to be quite good during the year and various amounts were disposed of.

Work on the erection of the new garage and store to House the refuse lorry and other items of plant was completed in March 1960. The buildings incorporate sanitary accommodation and hand washing facilities with hot and cold water which are essential at such an extablishment and were not previously available. The total cost of this work was £1,027.

Street cleaning of the main streets of Dulverton was continued a contribution towards the cost of this service is received from the Somerset County Council.

INSPECTION OF FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES.

(a) Milk and Dairies.

The authority responsible for the inspection, control and registration of cowsheds and of dairies at producer/retailers premises is the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food. Consultations do take place from time to time with this authority regarding drainage and water supply at such premises but apart from this aspect all matters are dealt with directly by the controlling authority.

Until the 31st December 1960 the Local Authority were responsible for the issuing of licences for the use of Special Designation by Distributors under the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations and the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised) Regulations. As from the 1st January 1961 however these licences will be issued by the Somerset County Council and the Local Authority will be responsible only for the registration of dairies (other than dairy farms) and of distributors (not being producer/retailers).

Routine inspections of distributors premises were made during the year and conditions were found to be generally satisfactory. Routine samples of school milk were taken by the County Council.

Number of Registered Distributors	4
Number of Registered Dairy Premises (other than dairy farms)	1
Number of licences authorising the use of the Designation "Tuberculin Tested"	4
Number of Licences authorising the use of the Designation "Pasteurised"	2
Number of Licences authorising the use of the Designation "Sterilised"	Nil
Number of Supplementary Licences authorising the use of the Designation "Tuberculin Tested"	2
Number of Supplementary Licences authorising the use of the Designation "Pasteurised"	2

(b) Ice Cream.

No premises within the district are registered for the manufacture of ice-cream.

Eighteen premises are registered under the Food and Drugs Act for the storage and sale of ice-cream, this is an increase of five over the previous year. The majority of ice cream sold is wrapped and of proprietary brands, all retailers have satisfactory conservators.

Whenever the opportunity arose the occupiers attentions were drawn to the provisions of the Food Hygiene Regulations and of the Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations.

(c) Food Premises, Cafes etc.

The number of food premises in the district are as follows:-

(a)	Grocers and General Stores.	16
(b)	Butchers.	3
(c)	Bakehouses.	1
(d)	Cafes and Restaurants.	6
(e)	Hotels and other catering establishments.	10
(f)	Fried Fish & Chip shops.	1
(g)	School kitchens.	12
(h)	Confectioners.	2
(j)	Greengrocers.	1
		52.

Routine inspections of various food premises were made during the year but due to extreme pressure of other works it was not possible to devote as much time to this important subject as one would desire. Informal action was taken in two cases and the occupier's attention was drawn to various requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations. In both cases a general improvement was noted when the premises were re-inspected and in one case structural alterations were made. A School Kitchen was found to be well below standard and at the end of the year consultations were taking place with a view to securing the necessary alterations and improvements.

(d) Meat and other Foods.

The report required under the Slaughter houses Act 1958 was prepared and submitted to the Minister in October after the whole question of Slaughterhouses and slaughtering facilities had been considered fully by the Council. The date recommended in the report for the coming into operation of the Construction Regulations was the 1st April 1962.

Licences of the two existing Slaughterhouses were renewed in July for a further period of twelve months. Routine inspedtions were made during the year, both premises are however below standard and considerable works will be required to bring them up to the standard of the new Regulations.

Details of Carcases inspected and meat condemned are as follows:-

	Bovines.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Horses.
Number Killed.	158	1	718	1	Nil
Number inspected.	152	1	693	1	"
Weight of Meat. Condemned in lbs. For:					
A Tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
B. Cysticerosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
C. Other	71	Nil	57	Nil	Nil

In addition a quantity of foodstuffs were examined and condemned as being unfit. (in all cases the goods were voluntarily surrendered by the owner)

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Detailed investigations were made in connection of the more acute infectious diseases notified by the Medical Officer of Health. Extensive enquiries were made into two cases of suspected food poisoning and samples of foodstuffs were collected and submitted for examination.

In all cases advice was given regarding precautions to be taken and the need for high standards of hygiene. Terminal Disinfection was carried out in 3 cases.

RODENT CONTROL.

The Council employ a full time Inspector/Operator. All farms in the district are inspected at regular intervals and it is found this procedure tends to keep the obligation of the occupier under The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act well to the fore.

Although not required by the act to service agricultural land and buildings the Council have undertaken to carry out this work on a Contract basis.

Business premises requiring treatment and not wishing to avail themselves of an annual contract are treated at cost price. Dwelling Houses are serviced free of charge.

Routine test bating of sewers and of other property owned by the Council was carried out during the year but no major infestations were found.

Several complaints were received during the summer months of infestations from wasps. These cases were dealt with by the Council's operator and in practically all cases the treatment carried out was successful.

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES.

Particulars of premises registered under the Factories Act 1957, details of inspections made and action taken are as follows:-

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector)

	Premises.	Number on Register	Number of		
			Inspections.	Written notices	Occupier prosecuted.
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(1)	Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	3	11	Nil	Nil
(2)	Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	15	23	Nil	Nil

(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	18	34	Nil	Nil

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.			Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.	
	Found	Remedied.	Refered to H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2).	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (a) Insufficient.	3	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective.	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not seperate for sexes.	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
	4	2	Nil	Nil	Nil

GENERAL MATTERS.

Action taken in connection with miscellaneous matters not already mentioned in the Report were as follows:-

Defective Drainage	11
Defective Cess Pits	10
Offensive Accumalation	1
Fouled Watercourse...	2
Dirty Premises	2
Bad or suspected water supply	14
Overcrowding	1
Animals kept in unfit premises...	Nil
Defective Sanitary Conveniences	8
Housing Complaints	29
Miscellaneous	3
	81